



Programmatics & Meeting Summary



Structural Amorphous Metals (SAM)

Arthur M. Diness
Staff Member
Institute for Defense Analyses

Pre-proposal Conference
June 6, 2000

Arlington, Virginia



Purpose of Meeting



- Present Plans, motivations, expectations to R&D community
- Answer questions/simulate further questions
- Encourage teaming among further questions
- Keep proposal writing efforts economical of time/effort
- Discuss programmatic features, timetable, mechanics of response
- Clarify what is to be emphasized in program
- **Do what you do best**
- **Establish wider, deeper understanding for SAMs**
- **Expedite possibilities for their application**



Proposals and Submissions



- **BAA (Broad Agency Announcement) and PIP (Program Information Pamphlet)**
- **Read both Documents - much to gain if you do,
- much to loose if you do not**
- **BAA/PIP to be posted at www.darpa.mil/dso ca. June 20, 2000**
- **To be published in the *Commerce Business Daily* ca. June 20, 2000**
- **Proposal due date to be defined in BAA**
- **Anticipated to be ca. September 18, 2000 – refer to BAA for date**
- **Proposals received late will not be considered!**
- **All submissions will be acknowledged shortly after their receipt**



Discussions re: Proposals



- **DARPA will not discuss proposals/ideas on SAM with proposers after this Pre-proposal Conference.**
- **Questions on program matters to be submitted via fax (703-696-3999) or web site (www.sainc.com/darpa/sam)**
- **Proposals must be complete – as described in BAA and/or PIP**
 - **Technical Proposal**
 - **Cost Proposal**
 - **Any supporting information**
- **Submissions not in compliance with these may not be evaluated**
- **All submissions will be treated as Proprietary Information**



Proposals and Submissions (continued)



DARPA reserves the right -

- **To fund a balanced program, contingent upon quality of proposals received**
- **To fund no effort in an announced focus area, or to fund no efforts on SAM**
- **To fund only portions of proposals submitted (with concurrence of lead PI)**
- **To suggest teaming other in any proposal selected (respecting proprietary interests)**



Anticipated Proposal Evaluation Process



- **Reviewers will be Government and IDA personnel only**
- **Only evaluation criteria to be used will be defined in the BAA and PIP**
- **All proposals will be considered with a few exceptions, shown below:**
 - **Those that are technically unresponsive to the BAA**
 - **Late proposals may be disqualified**
 - **Non-adherence to formatting requirements (as defined in the PIP) may lead to disqualification**
 - **Those that have incomplete technical and/or cost proposals**
- **DARPA will not discuss proposals during the conduct of the evaluation/selection process**
- **Notification will be provided to all who submit proposals**



Programmatic Features for SAM



- **Understanding is the foundation for the SAM program**
- **Not simply data gathering**
- **Program support to be for no longer than 36 months for all efforts**
- **Cost sharing desirable**
- **No follow-on DARPA SAM Materials R&D anticipated at present**



Programmatic Features for SAM (continued)



- Funding considerations
 - Ca. \$30M total for three years (anticipated)
 - Each year's funding contingent on performance as judged by DARPA
- All proposals are for team efforts
 - Industry-led teams can include participants from other firms, Gov't labs, universities, etc.
 - University teams can propose MURI-like efforts
 - Multidisciplinary, multi-institution
 - For no longer than 3 years
- It is **UNLIKELY** that individual investigator proposals will be considered under this BAA



Programmatic Features for SAM (continued)

Program Reviews, Meetings and Reports



- **Kick-off meeting when procurement actions are in place**
- **Semi-annual site visits by DARPA and Agents**
- **Comprehensive technical reviews ca. each 10-12 months**
- **Semi-annual written progress reports (technical), and spending reports**
- **Papers, presentations encouraged, as appropriate (prior clearance is required by Government regulations)**
- **Comprehensive final report**
 - **-- To cover entire technical program and final transition plan, commercialization/production plan**
 - **-- Due at end of 36th month**
- **Program changes**
 - **-- Technical changes in direction or emphasis allowed only upon approval of DARPA PM**
 - **-- Budget transfers and spending changes only upon written approval from Contracting Officer**



Programmatic Features for SAM (continued)



- **Most likely three focal areas – Fe, Al, and refractory**
- **Limit to SAMs that can be prepared in bulk and exhibit properties of importance for mechanical demands**
- **DARPA Agents/Service Representatives**
 - **First-line contacts for performers**
 - **Each DARPA Agent to be specifically identified by DARPA PM**
 - **Other Service personnel may be invited by PM to participate in reviews, etc.**
 - **Major inputs, influences for transitioning potential, applications in Services**
- **Transitioning Issues**
 - **DARPA wishes to reinforce opportunities for use of SAM**



Programmatic Features for SAM (continued)



- **Stakeholders are involved in program early-on in R&D process**
- **Performers, Agents and PM focus – ensuring utility of SAM**
- **Plans called for (see above) should include technical insights gained from R&D as well as from analysis of projected applications**
- **Demonstration of compelling advantages of SAM for DoD needed**
 - **Lab scale, prototypical component, experiments, modeling, etc.**